Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program



In 2016, the Sacramento San-Joaquin Delta Conservancy's Proposition 1
Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality Grant Program awarded \$89,450 to the
California Land Stewardship Institute to complete planning for a Fish Friendly
Farming Certification Program that will improve water quality and water
conservation in the Delta, Cache Slough Complex, and Putah Creek Watershed.

Project Description:

Through this project, the California Land Stewardship Institute (Institute) will develop best management practices for key Delta crops in order to launch a Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program for the Delta. The Delta Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program will be based on a statewide model that has successfully improved water quality water conservation in agricultural and landscapes by voluntarily enrolling farmers to scientifically-proven implement best management practices.

The Institute is working with a variety of national, state, and local agencies, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Delta Protection Commission, and the San Joaquin Farm Bureau, to better understand the current farming practices, water quality issues, and pesticide and fertilizer use in the Delta.

With the information and data it collects, the Institute will develop best management practices for ten of the leading Delta crops including corn, tomatoes, and wine grapes. Farmers who enroll in the Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program will commit to implementing these best management practices, which will reduce on-farm activities that have the largest effects on water resources. Enrollment in the program may also increase the marketability of farming products.

Planning for this project was started in January 2017 and is expected to be finished in February 2020. Enrollment in the Delta Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program is expected to begin in December 2019.

For More Information:

For more information about this project, visit ecoatlas.org. For more information about the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Ecosystem Restoration and Water Quality grant program, visit http://deltaconservancy.ca.gov/prop-1/.



Chinook Salmon. Photo credit: US Fish and Wildlife Service-Dan Cox

